[English]

Government Doctors Foreign Trips

3396. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to impose restriction on Government doctors' going abroad for international conferences sponsored by multinational companies; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b) Institutions/Hospitals affiliated with this Ministry have been advised to discourage the practice of recommending doctors from attending International Seminars/Workshops/Conferences etc., where foreign hospitality, especially from the private pharmaceutical companies is involved. This has been done with the view to ensure that the doctors are not influenced in their decisions relating to purchase and use of medical equipment, pharmaceuticals etc. and maintain objectivity in the interest of the institution they serve.

Universities

3397. SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI :
SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL :

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of universities functioning in the country at present, alongwith the average number of students during Eighth Plan, State-wise; and

(b) the number of degree colleges functioning in the country during Eighth Plan as approved by UGC and number out of them functioning without Science faculty, Science Honours courses, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Utilisation of Waterways

3398. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :
PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA :

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have found out the possibility of developing long waterways in the country;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact only 8.9 percent of the total waterways is being utilised;

(d) if not, the estimate of the Government in this regard;

(e) whether only 3 per cent of total cargo transportation of the country is being undertaken by waterways; and

(f) if not, the facts in this regard and the scheme of the Government for encouraging the use of waterways?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Three waterways, the Ganga, the Brahmaputra and the West Coast Canal have been declared as National Waterways where navigational developmental activities are in progress. These waterways have a combined length of 2716 Kms. Techno-Economic studies on other potential waterways have also been carried out and their development would be taken up depending on availability or resources.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) The National Waterways, Sunderbans, Goa rivers, Tapti, Mahanadi Delta, Godavari are presently being utilised by mechanically propelled vessels, total length of which would account for about 3000 kms. This would account for more than 8.9% of the total waterways. Exact details on percentage and statistics in this regard are not presently available.

(e) Yes, Sir.

(f) Does not arise.

Indian Territory under the possession of Pakistan

3399. SHRI P. NAMGYAL : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) total area of India (in sq. kms.) illegally occupied by Pakistan, State-wise and sector-wise separately, since independence; and

(b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government for taking back the Indian territory from Pakistan?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) Pakistan is in illegal occupation of Indian territory in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. The area under Pakistan's occupation is approximately 78,000 sq. kms. In addition, Pakistan has illegally ceded approximately 5,120 sq. kms. of Indian territory in Pakistan occupied Kashmir to China under the so-called Sino-Pak 'boundary agreement' of 1963.

(b) Government are committed to the Simla Agreement under which all differences with Pakistan are to be resolved peacefully through bilateral negotiations.